EA 4.3...Site Help

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1. Site Help

Enterprise Architecture (EA) site help pages describe *how* to use this site. You will find this link under each Welcome or Introduction Menu Header on each Tab. Each site help page provides information specific to the context of that Tab. The most general of these help pages is this one on the Home Tab.

Site help provides brief descriptions of how to use the various elements encountered during browsing the site. The best way to learn about the site is to use the mechanisms as you read these descriptions. The EA web site is it own best example. The sections below describe the generic web mechanisms used throughout the site.

1.1. Site Header

The site header appears at the top of web page throughout the EA site. It vanishes only when special modeling programs (such as Metis) or external sites are referenced. Clicking anywhere on the site header will link you to the external (internet) Veteran Affairs web site.

1.2. Tabs

The complex set of information associated with enterprise architectures has been partitioned into a convenient set of site tabs. Left clicking the tab name displays the unique menu and page associated with the selected tab. The five tabs are:

- 1. **Home** The general site tab opened when the site is initially accessed.
- 2. **Products -** Access to the basic general-exposure products that are produced from the One-VA Enterprise Architecture with each annual EA Assessment
- 3. **Process & Services** Internal procedures that the Office of Enterprise Architecture management uses to perform architectural reviews, and obtain and model VA architectual data
- 4. **Reference Documents** Direct access to core EA reference documents and EA repository reports.
- 5. **Knowledgebase** The artifacts and primitive models associated with this VA Enterprise Architecture are accessed via this tab.

1.3. Tab Menus

Each selected tab provides a menu area on the left side and a tab header with the release version and official EA publish date on the far right. The selected tab, tab menu, and tab header are visually unified by white letters on a dark blue background. Each menu uses two generic components that simplify navigation to information of interest.

- 1. **Menu Headers** Each menu consists of a set of bold tab menu headers that announce the information proved by this tab.
- 2. **Page Links** Clicking on the tab menu header reveals a list of links to tab pages on specific topics. Selecting a link will display that page in the tab page area demarked by the tab menu and header.

The default page display is the same for every tab menu.

- 1. **Default View** Initial entry to a tab opens a default "Welcome" or "Introduction" header and selects the default "Overview" or "About" menu link that provides a brief overview of the functionality and data available under this tab.
- 2. **Site Help** The "Site Help" menu link always appears just under the "Overview" or "About" links.

Every tab menu contains a Glossary menu item that provide definitions for VA and Government acronyms as well as the definitions of common terms.

1.4. Tab Pages

Information that appears in every scrollable tab page area is carefully organized.

- 1. **Page Location** The "bread crumb" page location is announced at the top of every page. It indicates the "tab...menu header...menu subheader...page content".
- 2. **Page Header** A light gray bar under the page location marks the top of the tab page and announces the page topic.
- 3. **Font Size** To the right of the page location are three buttons that control font size. Select "+a" to increase current font size, or "-a" to decrease. Select "Reset" to return to the site default font size.
- 4. **Page PDF Document** On the far right of the page header is a PDF button. Select this button to create a bookmarked and indexed Adobe PDF document of this tab page. It is possible to save, print, or email this document using standard PDF browser plug-in functionality.

1.5. Tab Page Sections

Tab Pages are constructed from sections. Each section is delineated by bold blue title on a light gray background. The section headers are used to bookmark and index the Page PDF Document.

1.6. Site Links

Links appear throughout Tab Page text. They connect to information in external sites or documents, to the graphical Metis model generated from EA artifacts and the EA meta-model, or to related information within the EA Assessment Document represented by this site.

1.7. Section 508

This special page on the Home tab provides a description the various approaches to ensuring 508-complient site access.